

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-10 and 12-14 remain in this application. Claims 1 and 12 have been amended as the Examiner has suggested.

It is Applicant's understanding that USP 5,708,247 is disqualified as a reference under 35 U.S.C. 103(c) because that patent and the present application were, based upon information and belief, at the time of the invention set forth in the present application, owned by Selfcare, Inc.

It is Applicant's understanding that USP 5,951,836 is disqualified as a reference under 35 U.S.C. 103(c) because that patent and the present application were, based upon information and belief, at the time the invention of the present application was made, was owned by Selfcare, Inc.

It is believed that with the above amendments the application is in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued.

Respectfully submitted,

By: B. E. Shay
Bernard E. Shay
Reg. No. 32,061

Johnson & Johnson
International Patent Law Division
Attention Philip Johnson
P.O. Box 1222
New Brunswick, NJ 08903
(408) 956-4066
Dated: 12/28/05